

ARSENAL AREA TO BE CLOSED TO SPORTSMEN

Will county sportsmen who have been accustomed to fish and hunt in the Joliet Arsenal area will have to find other haunts for their hobbies, it was disclosed today.

Because large quantities of ammunition and valuable supplies are being stored in certain sections of the six-mile square tract where hunting and fishing formerly were permitted, all passes previously issued have been canceled.

OFFICIALS explained this action was taken because of new safety factors. Some fishing passes for a day or week-end are being authorized but not in large numbers. Previously the fishing pass was good for an entire season.

"It's not that we believe the sportsmen will be careless," commented one officer, "but if one should throw a live cigaret away or carelessly toss a lighted match on the ground and a grass fire should start and get out of control, this area would not be safe for miles around. That's why we can't issue season fishing passes any more and have called in all those previous authorized. However, if a week-end pass is authorized, we can pin down the pass-holders as to where they are fishing and can be alerted to any possible danger."

AS FOR hunting, that's to be forbidden entirely for outsiders. One day hunting passes will be issued, but only to post residents and officers and they will be required to confine their activities to a small portion of the reservation, surrounded by acres of safe land and well beyond shooting range of the portion of the plant where ammunition is stored.